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## THE BENEKE PHILOSOPHICAL PRIZE.

The Philosophical Faculty of the University of Göttingen proposes the following subject for discussion by the competitors for the above named prize for the year 1891:

Of late years it has become more and more evident that the law of Entropy is of fundamental importance for the theory of all those physical and chemical phenomena which are connected with the production or absorption of heat. In the treatises on the law of energy written for the Beneke prize of 1884, it was especially recognized that the law of energy requires the law of entropy as an essential supplement. At the same time, much progress has recently been made in the endeavor to base the law of entropy on the general principles of mechanics. For these reasons a comprehensive discussion of all problems connected with the law of entropy seems to be particularly desirable at the present time.

Such a discussion should embrace the following:

- (1). The development of the empirical demonstrations of the law of entropy, together with a thorough digest of Carnot's works.
- (2). An historical and critical discussion of the investigations bearing on the connection of the law of entropy with the general principles of mechanics.
- (3). A complete report on all the applications of the law of entropy to the theory of physical and chemical processes.

The theses may be written in the German, Latin, French, or English language. They are to be sent to the Philosophical Faculty at Göttingen, together with a sealed letter which shall contain the name, profession and residence of the author, and be designated by the same motto as the thesis. The theses must be presented before August 31, 1890.

The award of the prizes will take place on March 11, 1891, the birthday of the founder, in a public session of the Philosophical Faculty.

The first prize amounts to 1700 M., the second to 680 M.

The prize-essays will remain the unrestricted property of their authors.

The title-page should contain an address to which the thesis may be returned in case it does not receive a prize.

The subjects for the prizes for the years 1888 and 1889 are announced in the Nachrichten der Königlichen Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften of Göttingen, 1886, No. 8, and 1887, No. 5. GÖTTINGEN, April 1, 1888.